

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's allowance of Claims 1, 4, 7, 9, 10, 29, 31, 34, 36, 39, 41, 45, 47, 51, 53, 56, 58, 62, 64, 68 and 70.

As explained below, this amendment merely cancels the withdrawn claims (directed to a non-elected invention) and the rejected claims, in order to place this application in a condition for allowance. Therefore, as only allowed claims are pending in this application, it is respectfully requested that this amendment be entered and the application allowed.

Applicants will now address the Examiner's comments and rejections in the Final Rejection.

Election/Restrictions

In the Final Rejection, the Examiner states that Claims 80-102 are directed to an independent or distinct invention. The Examiner has therefore withdrawn these claims.

Accordingly, in order to advance the prosecution of this application, Applicants are canceling non-elected Claims 80-102, along with non-elected Claims 20-25, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103

The Examiner also rejects Claims 11-12, 15-19 and 78-79 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee et al. (IEEE Trans Magn. Col. 31, no. 6, Nov. 1995, p. 2728-2730). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

While Applicants traverse this rejection, in order to advance the prosecution of this application, Applicants have canceled these claims without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

As only allowed claims are pending, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and should be allowed.

If any fee should be due for this amendment, please charge our deposit account 50/1039.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 20, 2006

/Mark J. Murphy/

Mark J. Murphy

Registration No.: 34,225

COOK, ALEX, McFARRON, MANZO,
CUMMINGS & MEHLER, LTD.

200 West Adams Street

Suite 2850

Chicago, Illinois 60606

(312) 236-8500

Customer No. 26568